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IDAHO CATTLE NUMBERS UP 3 PERCENT

Idaho cattle and calf inventory totaled 2.12 million head as of January 1, 2006, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. This was up 3 percent from the 2.06 million head in the State on January 1, 2005. There were 472,000 beef cows, down 1 percent, and 473,000 milk cows, up 9 percent, on hand at the beginning of the year. The number of beef replacement heifers, at 95,000, was down 5 percent and heifers for milk cow replacement, at 250,000, were up 9 percent. Statewide, there were 310,000 steers over 500 pounds, 35,000 bulls over 500 pounds and 285,000 calves under 500 pounds on January 1. The 2005 calf crop totaled 900,000 head, up 2 percent from the calf crop of 2004.

All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2006, totaled 97.1 million head, 2 percent above the 95.4 million on January 1, 2005. All cows and heifers that have calved, at 42.3 million, were up 1 percent from the 41.9 million on January 1, 2005. Beef cows, at 33.3 million, were up 1 percent from January 1, 2005. Milk cows, at 9.06 million, were up 1 percent from January 1, 2005. All heifers, 500 pounds and over, at 20.0 million, were up 2 percent. Beef replacement heifers, at 5.90 million head, were up 4 percent and milk replacement heifers, at 4.28 million, were up 4 percent. Steers weighing over 500 pounds totaled 16.9 million, up 3 percent from a year ago. The 2005 calf crop estimated at 37.8 million head, was up 1 percent from 2004. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 27.4 million, up slightly from 2004.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call (208) 334-1507.

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